Application No.: 09/384959 2 Docket No.: M0656.70046US00

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1.-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) A method of specifically cleaving a heparin-like glycosaminoglycan, comprising

contacting a heparin-like glycosaminoglycan with the heparinase of any one of: a substantially pure heparinase comprising a modified heparinase II, and a substantially pure heparinase comprising a modified heparinase I,

wherein the modified heparinase II has the amino acid sequence of the mature peptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein at least one amino acid residue is substituted and the substitution is selected from the group consisting of (a) a cysteine residue corresponding to position 348 substituted with a different amino acid than in native heparinase II; (b) a histidine residue corresponding to at least one of positions 238, 252, 347, 440, 451, and 579 substituted with alanine, serine, tyrosine, threonine, or lysine; and (c) a conservative substitution of a heparin-binding sequence residue corresponding to at least one of positions 446-451, and wherein the modified heparinase I has the amino acid sequence of the mature peptide of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein at least one amino acid residue is substituted and the substitution is a serine residue corresponding to position 377 substituted with alanine, serine, tyrosine, histidine, threonine, or lysine.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the heparin-like glycosaminoglycan is contacted with a modified heparinase II, wherein the modified heparinase II has the amino acid sequence of the mature peptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the histidine residue corresponding to position 440 of SEQ ID NO: 2 is substituted with a residue selected from the

Application No.: 09/384959 3 Docket No.: M0656.70046US00

group consisting of alanine, serine, tyrosine, threonine, and lysine to specifically cleave a heparinlike glycosaminoglycan.

- 32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the heparin-like glycosaminoglycan is contacted with a modified heparinase I, wherein the modified heparinase I has the amino acid sequence of the mature peptide of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein at least one amino acid residue has been substituted, and wherein the substitution is a substitution of a serine residue corresponding to position 377 of SEQ ID NO: 4 with a residue selected from the group consisting of alanine, serine, tyrosine, histidine, threonine, and lysine.
- 33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the method is a method of removing heparin from a heparin containing fluid.
- 34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the heparinase is immobilized on a solid support.
 - 35.-45. (Canceled)
- 46. (Currently Amended) A method of specifically cleaving a heparan sulfate-like glycosaminoglycan, comprising

eomprising contacting a heparan sulfate containing fluid with a substantially pure heparinase comprising a modified heparinase II,

wherein the modified heparinase II has the amino acid sequence of the mature peptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein at least one amino acid residue is substituted and the substitution is selected from the group consisting of (a) a cysteine residue corresponding to position 348 substituted with a different amino acid than in native heparinase II; (b) a histidine residue corresponding to at least one of positions 238, 252, 347, 440, 451, and 579 substituted with alanine, serine, tyrosine, threonine, or lysine; and (c) a conservative substitution of a heparin-binding sequence residue corresponding to at least one of positions 446-451.

Application No.: 09/384959 4 Docket No.: M0656.70046US00

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the method is a method of removing heparan sulfate from a heparan sulfate containing fluid.

- 48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the heparinase is immobilized on a solid support.
- 49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, wherein the heparan sulfate-like glycosaminoglycan is contacted with a substantially pure modified heparinase II, wherein the modified heparinase II has the amino acid sequence of the mature peptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the cysteine residue corresponding to position 348 of SEQ ID NO: 2 has been substituted with a residue selected from the group consisting of alanine, serine, tyrosine, histidine, threonine, and lysine to specifically cleave a heparin-heparan sulfate-like glycosaminoglycan.

50.-57. (Canceled)

- 58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the at least one substituted residue of the modified heparinase II is the cysteine residue corresponding to position 348 substituted with alanine.
- 59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the at least one substituted residue of the modified heparinase I is the serine residue corresponding to position 377 substituted with alanine.
- 60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the at least one substituted residue of the modified heparinase II is the cysteine residue corresponding to position 348 substituted with alanine.